



Three Days Grace rocks Kitchener

The high-energy, Toronto-based band sold out Elements Nightclub on Jan. 21.

Entertainment 18

SPOKE

A learning newsroom for journalism students

Super Bowl countdown

Who will be crowned king of the gridiron: the Giants or Patriots?

Sports 14

Hockey great coming to Waterloo

Fundraiser for Women's Crisis Services to feature Sittler as keynote speaker.

News 3

Monday, January 28, 2008

Conestoga College, Kitchener, Ont.

www.conestogac.on.ca/spoke

40th Year — No. 4



(Photo submitted)

Ryan Morrison, who died Jan. 2 as a result of a snowmobile accident, is missed by family and friends.

Morrison 'greatly missed'

By JACKIE ALLWOOD

A snowmobile accident claimed the life of a Conestoga student on Jan. 2.

Ryan Morrison, a student in the general machinist apprenticeship program, died of head injuries at Stratford General Hospital after he collided with a grain auger on a trail near a friend's farm.

The OPP said the trail Ryan was on veered to the left and he stayed to the right, colliding with the machinery late in the evening.

Lyndsay Benning, a friend of Ryan's, said the accident still doesn't make any sense to her.

"He was the most cautious person I know," she said.

Benning said while her other friends would rip up the bush, Ryan would wait until they were done and stay on the trail.

Esther Morrison, Ryan's mother, said he was working and going to college, adding he had chosen his

field a couple of years before he started.

"To us, Ryan was an amazing kid," she said.

"He always had a smile on his face."

*Erin Hartung,
friend of Morrison*

Esther said he enjoyed spending time with his friends and family even when the activities they were doing weren't always his favourite.

She said he didn't make a big deal out of having nothing to do on the weekends.

"He would just chill with us."

Benning remembers how Ryan liked to plan events for his friends.

Esther said in the past few weeks the family has heard stories from friends about how he would always make someone feel welcome when

they joined his group of friends for the night.

Benning said, "He always made me feel important."

Erin Hartung, another friend of Ryan's, said everyone knew him best as the nicest guy around.

"He always had a smile on his face," Hartung said.

Ray Gallant, Ryan's teacher at the college, said he was an above-average student.

"I was honoured to know him and to be his instructor," he said.

Adam James Stone, one of Ryan's close friends, said he had made a huge difference in people's lives even though he was with them for such a short time.

"Ryan was a great son, brother and friend to so many people and we were all very privileged to have known him," said Stone.

As well as going to college and working, Ryan was involved in Milverton Minor Hockey as an official.

Benning said he loved the Anaheim Mighty Ducks even though everyone hassled him about it.

"The morning after last year's Stanley Cup game he was in his prime," she said.

"He was the happiest I had seen him. He told everyone 'I told you so' that day."

Benning said no matter what was happening Ryan was always the first to show up and everyone could rely on him to call others to liven up an empty house.

"The thing about Ryan that I will miss the most is the fact that he was always there," she said.

"He is greatly missed," said his mom.

The funeral for Ryan was held on Jan. 7 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. The family asks that any expressions of sympathy be made in the form of donations to Milverton Minor Hockey for registration bursaries.

Dany on road to recovery

By CHARLOTTE PRONG
PARKHILL

Dany Mercado has had his bone marrow transplant and now friends and family are praying for a successful recovery.

Dany, a Conestoga student who is battling leukemia, is recuperating at the Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit after undergoing surgery Jan. 15.

"The doctors were really happy," said his father, Luis Mercado. "He's progressing according to what they expect." Dany did not suffer from any short-term complications, and will now stay in hospital for several weeks while his white blood cells, platelets and immune system are monitored.

Dany had what is known as a mismatch transplant — the marrow comes from a donor with the closest match possible — when after an exhaustive search, an exact match could not be found.

"The next two weeks they'll keep a close eye on him to see if his body is rejecting the bone marrow," said Mercado. But so far, they are optimistic about his physical condition. "When he feels strong enough, he pushes his I.V. pole around and walks."

WebCT will be going offline in the fall

By MARCIA LOVE

By September, WebCT will be a thing of the past at Conestoga.

The college's current learning management system is being replaced with Angel Learning Management, a new online tool for students and teachers.

The switch to Angel will allow faculty to post course content for student use, but will also allow for the creation of fully online programs.

WebCT allows the college 6,000 seats under its licence, which does not leave enough spaces available for the growing number of online enrolments.

"I would be happy to embrace anything that would improve education for students."

*Lisa Symons,
professor in the marketing
program*

Elizabeth Bowman, educational technology co-ordinator and project manager of Angel, said the new software will be easier to navigate and allow for better course content layout.

"Angel will allow (Conestoga) to be more of a hybrid college. Classes will be more enhanced. Programs will still have in-classroom time, but instructors will also have the option of putting lectures and assignments online."

Bowman said it will be up to the

chairs of each program to determine what aspect and how much of each program will be completed through Angel.

"It's our target for every program to have one course online — either partially or fully — to give students exposure to working online," she said.

However, there are students who are opposed to the college's switch from WebCT to Angel.

Corey Ouellette, a second-year marketing student, is concerned students would not use the new software or attend online classes.

"Student interaction is important," he said. "We learn best in classroom settings. Communication includes body language and tone, and that's an important part to learning."

Ouellette said program-specific courses should not be put online, and professionals such as teachers are needed to help students understand concepts.

"We can only learn so much from working online and from textbooks," he said. "Explanation is required, and we can't get that from working online by ourselves."

Ouellette said he is creating a petition students opposed to the switch from WebCT can sign.

He said he hopes to get enough signatures to convince the college to rethink its decision about online class time.

Vanessa Claire, a first-year law and security student, said she thinks the idea of online class time has its positives and negatives.

"I wouldn't mind having some class content done (online), but it's also important to have teachers available for input," Claire said.



(Photo by Marcia Love)

Could some class time at Conestoga be completed online next year? Corey Ouellette doesn't think it should be. He is preparing a petition against the use of Angel Learning Management, the server that will replace WebCT in September.

Ana Cambara, a first-year law and security student, said she believes students should have the opportunity to attend all classes.

"If we're doing work online by ourselves, each person will understand it in their own way," Cambara said. "If I have to teach myself, why pay so much for tuition?"

Lisa Symons, a professor in the marketing program, said she would like to know more about Angel in order to decide if she thinks it is a good idea or not.

"I would be happy to embrace anything that would improve education for students," she said. "To

have an online component (to classes) makes sense in some ways, but there is no proof college students work better online."

Conestoga's human resource management program and career management practitioner program are currently online.

Faculty training for Angel has already begun.

The college's WebCT licence will expire Aug. 31, and all online courses are to be moved to Angel by Sept. 1.

The new server is expected to be fully operational by the end of October.

Now deep thoughts ...with Conestoga College

Random questions answered by random students

Who is your favourite Spice Girl
and why?

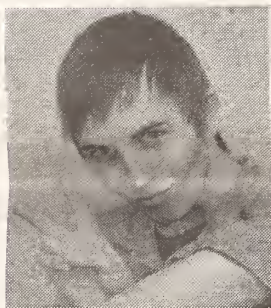


"Posh Spice, because I have loved her since I was younger."

*Tess Chatbonnean,
second-year
marketing*

"Ginger Spice because she's hot!"

*Fernando Aylayas,
second-year
marketing*



"I like Posh Spice and Sporty Spice. I love their style."

*Mike Sauder,
first-year business
management*

"Scary Spice, because she has always been down to earth and funny."

*Tiany Fernandez,
first-year legal
office administration*



"I dislike all of them because they are only on tour to make more money, not to impress their fans."

*Barbara Vang,
first-year health
office administration*

"Posh Spice because she's stylish, independent, has a hot husband and looks great after having three kids."

*Maly Mona,
first-year health
office administration*



Smile Conestoga, you could be our next respondent!

Name your atrium, Conestoga

By WEI-LON LEE

Would you like to give the atrium a proper name and win \$100 in the process?

You can create a new identity for the atrium and win a \$100 gift certificate from Fairview Mall while doing your part in making the Student Life Centre more homey by participating in the Name the Atrium contest.

"Our purpose for the Name the Atrium contest is to give an opportunity to students at Conestoga to express what they want their SLC to look and sound like," said Carol Gregory, director of student development.

Gregory said the contest is just the first step of a new initiative proposed by the physical design committee to improve the Student Life Centre.

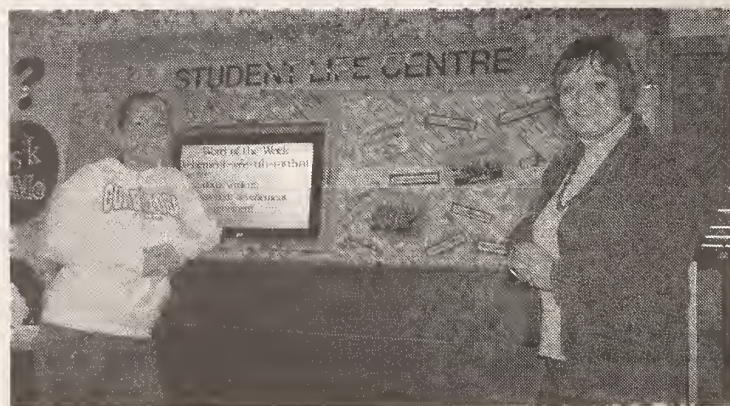
"Basically, we want to establish a student life centre that really celebrates not only our students and staff, but also past students and alumni," she said. "We want our students to feel at home whenever they come to the SLC."

The Student Life Centre, which opened in January 2007, is a joint venture between CSI and the college and is specifically designed for student engagement and success — offering a blend of student services, student life programming and activities.

"The first step we plan on taking is to increase the number of LCD screens throughout the college," said Gregory.

The bar-bistro, upper Sanctuary, B- and E-wing cafeterias as well as the E-wing foyer are all locations that the committee is looking at to expand the network of TV screens.

"Though it hasn't been finalized



(Photo by Wei-Lon Lee)

The physical design committee, chaired by Carol Gregory, director of student development, right, is planning to have more LCD screens around the college. The committee is a joint effort between the college and Conestoga Students Inc. to improve the Student Life Centre services and facilities. At left is CSI president Roxy Stanciu.

yet, we are also looking at relocating computer services, which is in 1E19 right now, to a location closer to the SLC help desk," she said.

One theme which the CSI is pushing for is environmental consciousness, said Roxy Stanciu, president of Conestoga Student Inc.

"One of the areas that the committee has discussed in creating the vision we want is having a student life centre that is both environmentally friendly and technologically savvy," she said. "We want to promote a place that is for the students and by the students."

CSI is also campaigning to have more "comfy seats" like sofas and lounge chairs to accommodate students.

"The whole idea is to make it as comfortable as possible, so that students can lounge around, just as they would at home," said

Stanciu.

Gregory said the goal of the committee is to establish a plan for the centre that fosters college pride and promotes student participation.

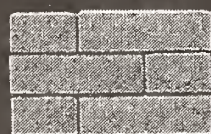
"We already have CSI representatives, a broadcasting student and faculty from various programs with audio and visual communication expertise on the committee, as well as a host of other people to help us with the design of the SLC," said Gregory.

"But we also want the input of students to make our vision really come alive."

If you would like to participate in the contest, ballots are available at the Student Life Centre help desk until Friday, Feb. 1.

For more information, contact Carol Gregory at 519-748-5220, ext. 3246 or e-mail her at cgregory@conestogac.on.ca.

Making the Grade



~Tips for Success~

the learning commons

Peer Services • Learning Skills Services • Writing Services

Get valuable advice for achieving higher marks at these sessions!

Getting the student perspective! This semester, the following sessions are co-facilitated by a Learning Skills Advisor and an iLearn.



When in Doubt Pick C?

If your strategy for multiple choice is, "when in doubt, pick c", then you need to sign up for this session. Learn how to work with multiple choice exams, how to analyze questions, and how to improve your probability of coming up with the right answer.

Tuesday, February 5 @ 11-12 in 2A111

Thursday, February 7 @ 12-1 in 2A111



Preparing for Midterms

Do you wait until the last minute to study? Are the grades you get from cramming less than you would like? If you answered yes, then this session is for you!

Tuesday, February 12 @ 11-12 in 2A111

Thursday, February 14 @ 12-1 in 2A111



(Photo by Jennifer Marko)

Front desk clerks, left to right, Nicole Woodruff, Jessica McCulloch and residence life manager/co-ordinator Ryan Connell have enjoyed their time working together and will miss each other when Ryan leaves his job at Conestoga Residence for his new position at Conestoga College.

Goodbye student residence, hello Conestoga College

By JENNIFER MARKO

For two years, residence life manager/co-ordinator, Ryan Connell, worked among students living in the Conestoga Residence and Conference Centre. Now he is moving his expertise across the street to Conestoga College.

Connell is a 2005 graduate of Conestoga's journalism print and broadcast program and as a student he worked as a resident adviser (RA) at the residence from 2004 to 2005 as well as a front desk staff person. He became residence life manager/co-ordinator in January 2006.

In that position, Connell enhances the residence experience, manages RAs, does event programming and is head of student discipline.

However, he will only be doing that job for a few more days.

"I got a position with Student Life at the college as student life programmer," said Connell, who was very upbeat. "It was really an opportunity I was really geared to take up because it gives me a chance to expand on my experience at residence and the changes I've been able to make through the residence."

At the college, Connell's duties will consist of helping students throughout the school deal with college life.

Who will replace Connell is still up in the air, but he said he hopes to have someone by the end of January.

"We have a posting out," he said. "We're kind of playing it by ear and taking resumes now."

Connell said it is hard to choose his most memorable moment from his time at residence.

"The experiences I've had with the students over the years has been amazing," said Connell. "Normally it's the funniest experiences and stuff like that that are the most memorable, but I think generally

my most memorable experience has been the students."

He said students are able to come to residence with a fresh outlook on things and then leave with more experience and knowledge of what life has in store for them in.

"The experiences I've had with the students over the years has been amazing."

*Ryan Connell,
student life programmer*

"I wish I would've had more chances to create more leadership opportunities, though there has been more put in place like the residence life committee," he said. "I think there should've been more programming on how to become a leader."

Connell said he will miss being able to work hands-on with students in all areas.

"I think what's really different with the residence environment and the college is that at residence students let their guard down so they're more relaxed because they consider this their home," he said.

Connell said he knows his new environment will be different.

"I think what I'm going to really miss is the quirky students," said Connell.

He said the one thing he is not going to miss is the student discipline.

"It has not been one of my favourite things," he said with a chuckle.

"I guess the reason why I'm here is because I want to do everything in my power to make this experience better for students, but, unfortunately, discipline comes with the job, too."

He said in his new job discipline is not really a facet and that is what

he is looking forward to.

"I'm definitely going to miss everybody that I've worked with and had a chance to meet with here," he said. "I keep telling everyone that I'm just going to be moving across the street so I won't be too far."

Darcy Epworth, a second-year early childhood education student and resident at the Conestoga residence, said her first memory of Connell was on moving day.

"He was the nice, helpful guy who was telling me where to go and what to do because I was so lost," said Epworth.

She said Connell was very open and told her that if she needed anything to go to him and if she ever wanted to talk he was there to listen.

Her most memorable moment of Connell was when he called her room last year and asked if he could bring two women to her room to check it out so they could see if they wanted to live in residence.

"I think what I'm really going to miss is the quirky students."

Connell

"He then told me it was because I had one of the cleanest rooms and he knew I would represent him well," said Epworth, "which made me feel awesome."

Epworth wishes Connell good luck and said he has been an awesome addition to residence.

"Your smile and cheerfulness always put me in a better mood," she said. "Thanks for being so open and there for everyone. You have made a lot of friends here that won't forget you."

"I think there are only more exciting adventures ahead now," said Connell.

LRC gets a new literacy consultant

By HIEN DINH

Patricia Green's first job was working at the concession stand in Conestoga College's arena. Now she's back at the college as the Learning Resource Centre's new information literacy consultant.

"I was very excited when the position came up," said Green. "It's a wonderful combination of all the things I was interested in at all other libraries I've worked at."

Green graduated from the University of Waterloo with a degree in English. She worked in public relations before she got her master's degree at the University of Western Ontario in library and information science.

"I've worked for a number of different types of libraries including government, university and public. Now I'm here at the college."

Green believes information literacy can greatly benefit Conestoga students.

"It's important for students to be able to quickly identify what they need and to find the right resources," she said.

"Students will sometimes get frustrated because they can't find what they are looking for. This may be because there's a resource out there that they don't even know about."

Green said a big part of her job is helping students find more efficient resources.

"An information literate student has the ability to understand when they need information and what kind of information they need," she said.

"These students know where to find resources and how to use it in an effective way."

Green said she rarely works with students individually. Instead, she'll work with faculty members to find ways to integrate information literacy into different courses.

"I would go talk to a teacher about a specific assignment or project their students are working on. I'll then go and do some research and come back into the classroom to give students a demonstration of how to find the resources they need."

Amy Howard, a third-year nursing student, said a librarian had recently given a demonstration in one of her classes.

"Parts of it were definitely helpful," Howard said. "She showed us how to find nursing journals through an online database and that's what I found really helpful. She took the whole class through it together."

Nick Preikschat, a first-year environmental engineering student, said he could see how information literacy can help students.

"I would find it helpful because there's a lot of research that needs to be done (in my program), especially with the second-year courses."

Darryl Sittler to speak at Feb. 16 fundraiser

By KERRY REED

Sports fans of all ages, get your Toronto Maple Leafs jersey on and head over to Hockey Night in Waterloo Region.

Darryl Sittler, former captain of the Toronto Maple Leafs, will be the keynote speaker at the event being held Feb. 16 at St. George Banquet Hall, 665 King St. N., Waterloo, by the Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region.

Shelly Friesen, event co-ordinator, said, "Hockey night in Waterloo should be a great event for the whole family to attend."

The night will be an exciting way to involve families and the community in this worthwhile cause, while sharing in Canada's favourite winter sport.

"Women abuse is not just a woman's issue, it affects everyone," said Friesen.

The event will include a televised Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Boston Bruins game on jumbo screens, a delicious hot dinner buffet, cash bar, many exciting silent and live auction items such as signed jerseys and hockey sticks, and fun for the whole family.

"Darryl Sittler will be sharing some of his greatest moments of his hockey career and his proudest moments," she said.

Ticket prices are \$50 for adults and \$25 for children and a table of



(Internet photo)

Darryl Sittler, a former captain of the Toronto Maple Leafs, will be the keynote speaker at Hockey Night in Waterloo Region on Feb. 16. The event is being held by the Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region.

eight is available for larger parties. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and dinner is at 5 p.m.

To buy or inquire about tickets contact Shelly Friesen at shelly.friesen@wscwr.org or call 519-653-8966, ext. 239.

"We chose to do a hockey night because it is a good way to get families and men involved in what our services do and get them better informed," said Friesen.

Start protecting the innocent

Gun violence has been an issue in recent years, as assailants become more reckless and unafraid of gunning down their perceived enemies in broad daylight.

Violence toward another human being — with a gun, or otherwise — is never acceptable, but dealing with this issue becomes even more crucial when innocent victims get caught in the line of fire.

Experts say one is more likely to die in a car accident than as a victim of random violence. So when two innocent men die within a week, there is clearly a problem.

John O'Keefe, a 42-year-old father of one, was walking by a strip club in Toronto in the early morning hours of Jan. 12. Two men, earlier tossed from the club, drove by and fired a shot at the bouncer who had ejected them. The bullet hit O'Keefe in the head, killing him instantly.

Five days later, Hou Chang Mao was stacking oranges on the sidewalk outside of the store where he worked, also in Toronto. A shootout erupted and Mao was caught in the middle, taking a fatal bullet to the chest.

These events came a little over two years after 15-year-old Jane Creba was shot and killed in gang crossfire on Yonge Street on Dec. 26, 2005.

The loss of innocent life to the irresponsible choices of others is unacceptable. Our society has clearly reached a point where criminals are no longer afraid to step into broad daylight and fire a weapon. These people display a total lack of regard and respect for human life, and it is time to send the message that such displays will not be tolerated.

The loss of life is never easy to explain, but it's even worse when a nine-year-old boy has no better explanation for his father's death than the fact that two thugs — who likely earned their ejection from the strip club — decided to send a message and hit the wrong man.

It's time to take a stand and totally ban all handguns in this country. They are not required for hunting and they serve no necessary purpose, so it is time to get rid of them completely.

Not restrict them, not license them, but ELIMINATE them. That, in turn, means severely upping the penalty for anyone found in possession of a gun. There needs to be a mandatory prison sentence of at least a year for simply possessing a handgun.

And we can't stop there. The mistake of any government in trying to eliminate gun use is that they limit their focus to the guns. We cannot only make these people afraid to carry guns, we must make them afraid to use them. That means creating and enforcing laws that promote a respect for human life.

The laws in this country are hardly a deterrent when criminals know they can shoot someone in cold blood, and then exploit the legal system and be out of prison in five to 10 years.

In the United States, a life sentence is a life sentence. In Canada, a life sentence is 25 years. And that shorter sentence means parole eligibility comes sooner. Someone who callously takes the life of another, in cold blood, does not deserve parole or a lesser sentence for "good behaviour."

O'Keefe's son has to go the rest of his life without his father. That sentence will never end, so why should the killers'?

Stephen Harper and the Conservatives are in a position no one should envy. But they asked to be put in that position and they were elected to lead and represent this nation. It is now time for them to step up and do something to deter, and eventually stop, the use of guns and the instances of senseless violence in this country.

For Jane Creba, John O'Keefe, Hou Chang Mao and their families, let's make our cities safe, once and for all.



Impaired driving kills again

Just before the new school year started, my family and I lost one of our closest friends. That Labour Day weekend will forever stand out in my mind as the day a friend was killed.

Tom Walker died outside his home as he went to the assistance of a 19-year-old crash victim. He was then struck and killed by a volunteer firefighter who was rushing to the scene. What's worse was that Tom's wife witnessed it all.

Horrified as my family was by Tom's death, we could not begin to imagine how Linda, his wife, felt.

Tom's family later found out that the crash victim, who was the catalyst of these events, had been drinking earlier that evening and was under the influence when his accident happened.

We've seen the drunk driving commercials, maybe we even bought a MADD ribbon, but has the message really hit home? I've never approved of drinking and driving no matter how small the



Kayla Grant

Opinion

amount of alcohol. But I am guilty of allowing someone who had been drinking and "was fine to drive" go unchecked.

Stopping drinking and driving is everyone's responsibility. It is the responsibility of the person drinking to find appropriate ways to get home. It is the responsibility of their friends to stop someone from driving and it is the law's responsibility to set fitting penalties for breaking the law.

It seems whenever we hear on the news about a DUI charge and then the resulting conviction that was handed down, the "time" is not nearly enough for the "crime." It seems to me, in regards to the law, the penalty for drinking and

driving is not clearly defined. A person can lose their licence, be fined and maybe spend some time in jail, but others get away scot-free. But when someone loses their life due to drinking and driving then I feel the law needs to come down hard. It's one thing if a person who drinks and drives wants to risk his or her own life but what people need to realize is that you are not alone on the road.

People need to think carefully about the consequences of their actions.

So many things went wrong that day. One change in a variable and the outcome could have been different. If the crash victim hadn't gone drinking or the firefighter hadn't rushed or if Tom had been a few seconds later or earlier then maybe none of it would have happened. But the point is that it did happen and there is no reset button in life. There are no second chances and one ill-made decision can change your life and someone else's forever.

Letters are welcome



Spoke welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be signed and include the name and telephone number of the writer. Writers will be contacted for verification.

No unsigned letters will be published.

Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Spoke reserves the right to edit any letter for publication.

Address correspondence to:

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A Green choice for students

By VANESSA BUTLER

In their second annual election, the Young Greens of Canada have elected eight new councillors to serve on the party's youth council and a new managing editor for their newsletter, *The Understory*.

The voting for the election began on Dec. 22, 2007. People could go online, register and vote. The voting ended on Jan. 5.

"The Young Greens have seen an incredible first year," said Jared Giesbrecht, outgoing organizing chair of the YGC. "We have witnessed tremendous interest and support among young people from one end of the country to the other. Canadian youth are drawn to our inclusive politics and our commitment to actively work for a better Canada."

The youth wing of the Green Party of Canada was established by youth at the party's 2006 AGM to actively engage the growing number of young people who were joining the Green Party. The Young Greens now co-ordinate 25 campus clubs across the country and have begun networking between Green riding associations and city-wide Young Green clubs. They are also ready for the four by-elections set to take place on March 17.

"Young people are standing up for what's important to them — standing up for real issues and for real change," said Matt Laine, newly elected organizing chair for the YGC. "Canadian youth are increasingly identifying with the Green Party and this is an exciting time to be a Young Green. Our members are eager and enthusiastic to get involved in their communities and to tell their government

that their voice won't go unheard."

Some of the 2008 YGC election results are: Katie Gibbs (Nova Scotia), co-chair; Jason Hammond (Kingston), co-chair; Dave Bagler (Nova Scotia), internal communications; John Esposito (Windsor), external communications; Amanda Judd (Kingston) and Matthew Laine (British Columbia), organizing chairs; and Tony Bartlett (Manitoba), managing editor at *The Understory*.

The Young Greens of Canada are part of a new and growing green movement establishing a comprehensive replacement of old party politics. This green political movement is not only a critique of the old parties and the old ways of politicking — it is an effective and progressive activism. It is a commitment to living within their means and giving thought to the future of our world. As Young Greens, they recognize the interconnectedness of ecological and social issues and are especially calling for the inclusion of those who are excluded by the old politics — aboriginal peoples, women and the poor. The Young Greens are calling on all young Canadians to act locally and think globally by demanding local and democratic control over economic and political resources.

All members of the Young Greens of Canada are under the age of 30. The team works in local ridings, campus clubs and city-wide Green youth clubs to bring about true change in Canadian politics.

For more information about the Young Greens, go to <http://youth.greenparty.ca> or call John Esposito at 519-253-4603.

Online dating

— what you need to know

By FRANCA MAIO

You are checking your e-mail when you come across a message from your best friend telling you to try an online dating site. Your first reaction is to run, but curiosity gets the best of you and soon you are checking out the profiles.

Internet dating can be scary when you are unsure of where to start or who you will meet while chatting online.

Inspector Bryan Larkin of the Waterloo Regional Police Service said when you are putting up a profile limit the information you post online, such as your date of birth, where you work, where you live and your phone number. By leaving the information vague it creates a safety barrier.

Larkin said always use common sense when you are online. If you are planning to meet the person you have been chatting with, always meet in a public place where there will be crowds of people.

Kari Kuntz started chatting four months ago because she was bored one day and started playing around with her cellphone and was soon chatting online.

She said it can be addicting, and also noted that there are many people who do not tell the truth on their profiles.

However, it is a great way to meet people, but be smart and be careful she said.

She said she is currently dating someone she met online.

Csilla Hegedus, a 23-year-old first-year psychology student at the University of Guelph, said she began to use Lavalife in August 2005, after she moved to the area from Toronto.

She was 20 years old when she started and she was not looking for love, just friendship.

Hegedus said her time online was brief because she met her current boyfriend, Matt Purdy, within a week of putting up her profile, and a week after their first chat, they met for coffee.

She said they have been dating for a year and a half and they moved in together in May 2006.

The Today Show's website (www.msnbc.msn.com) has some tips to think about when you are chatting with someone online from Dr. Laura Berman a doctor of women's health.

Some of the tips include being

yourself while holding a conversation with someone, not expecting the person to be Brad Pitt or Angelina Jolie and not expecting to find your soulmate within a week.

Another thing to consider when entering the online dating world is price. Most well-known and trustworthy sites cost money.

On Lavalife you have to pay to start a conversation with someone. eHarmony allows you a limited profile and others offer a free trial and then ask for payment to continue.

Most of the sites have free trials or limited functions with a free profile. These include being able to receive a message but not send one or not being able to use certain functions such as instant messaging.

If online dating appeals to you, but you are still unsure which site fits your preferences, you can check out dating site reviews at www.datingsitesreviews.com. There, you can read reviews for dating sites in Canada and the United States. It lists the pros and cons of each site while giving a price for different memberships and some reviews list if the online dating service offers memberships for a month, six months or a year.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In her commentary regarding police abuse of power Ms. Allwood refers to a police officer "accused" of "allegedly" committing a criminal offence and offers her opinion that the punishment does not fit the crime. Last time I checked, punishment follows conviction not allegation. Her summary conviction of the officer of a crime is an abuse of journalistic power. Becoming a police officer does not require someone to give up their fundamental democratic right to a presumption of innocence and a fair trial.

Don Rusk

Conestoga student, Guelph campus



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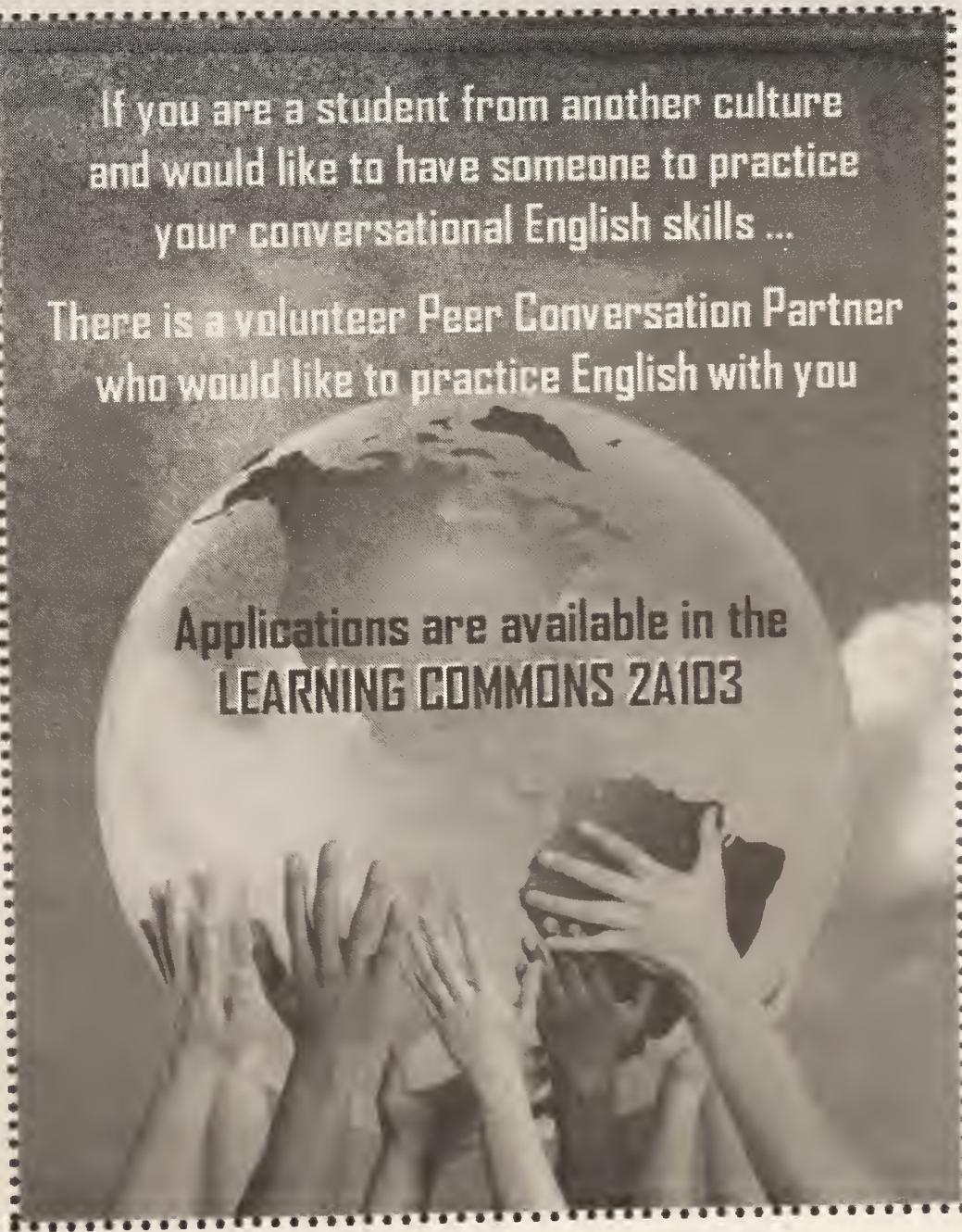
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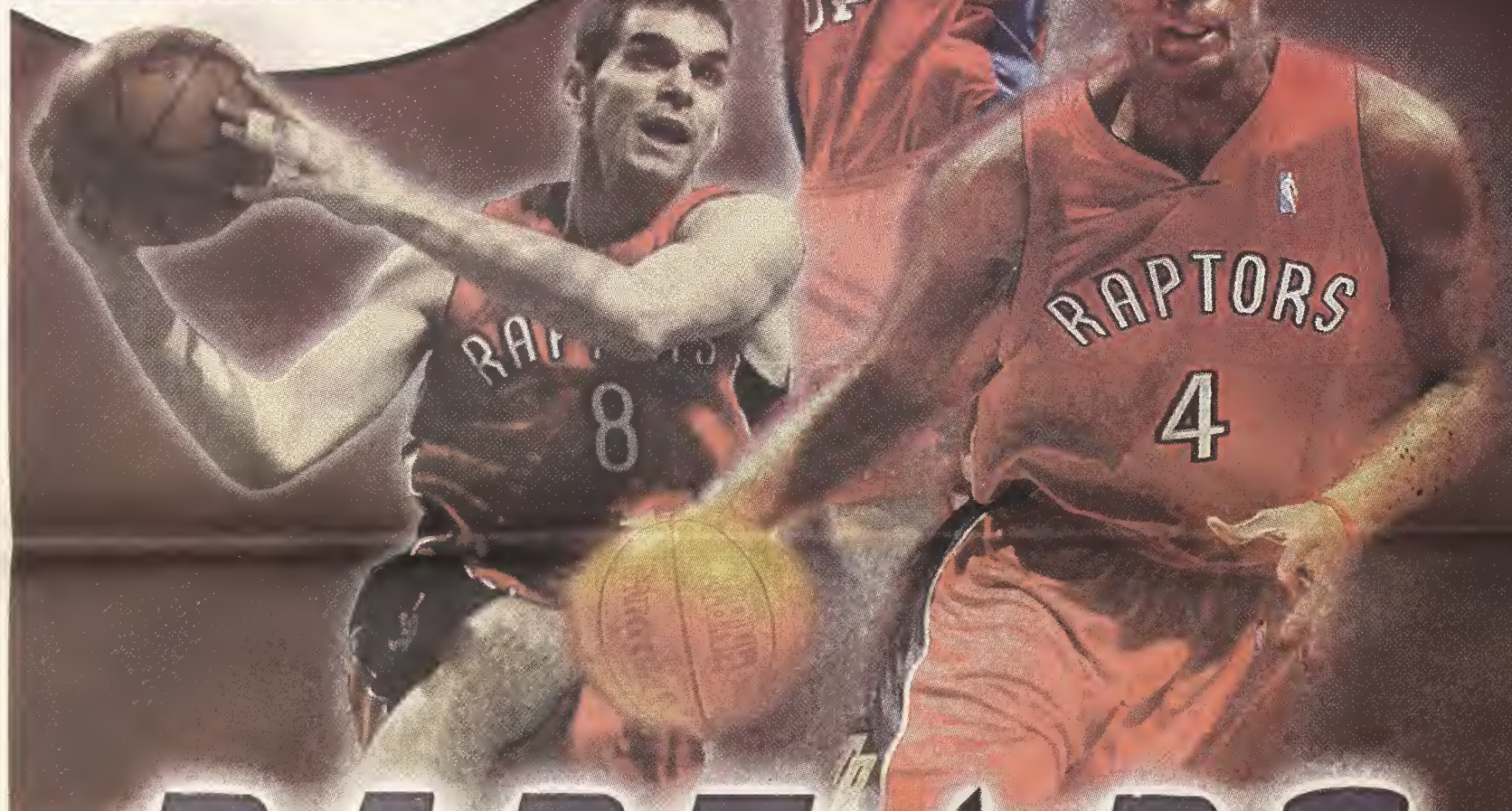
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Tickets in the CSI office Room 2A106

**Includes:
transportation
and ticket**



CONESTOGA
STUDENTS INC



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Feb. 8, 2008

Bus leaves at
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(Seat section 114)

POLAR PLUNGE

2008

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21st • 12:00 NOON
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CONESTOGA STUDENTS TAKING THE PLUNGE TO HELP RAISE MONEY FOR HEART AND STROKE!

STUDENT POKER

CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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THURSDAYS at 5:00 | 18+
 JANUARY 17th, 24th, 31th, and FEBRUARY 7th

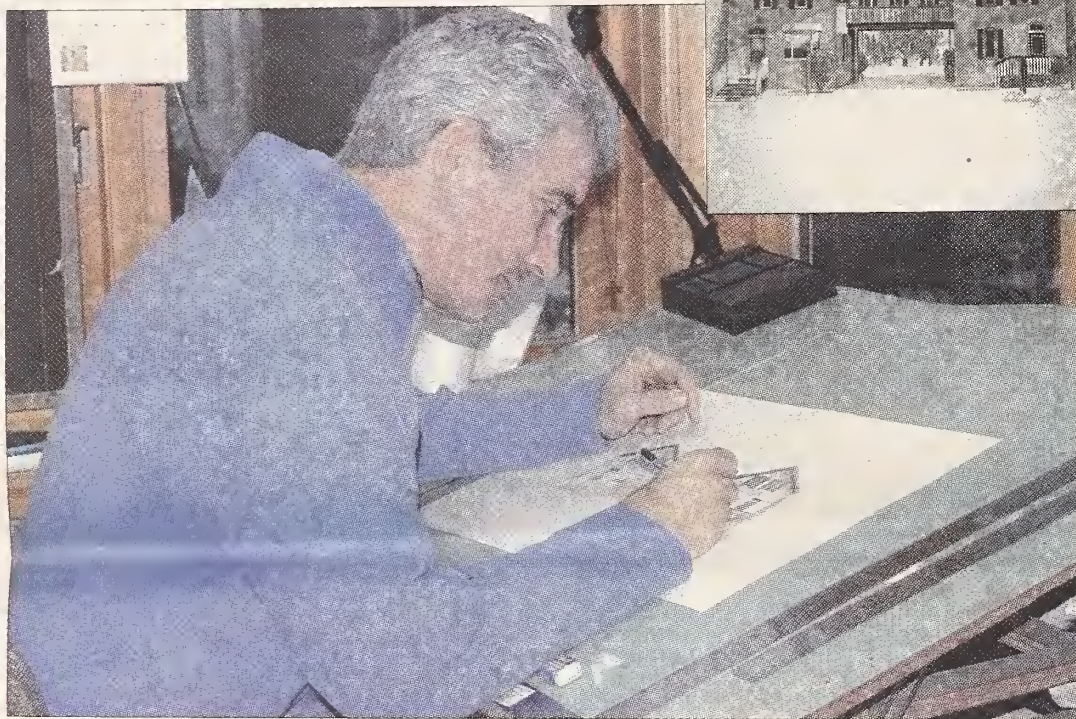
STUDENT ID REQUIRED | **SANCTUARY**
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 All Day
 All invited

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

CONESTOGA STUDENTS INC



(Photo by Marcia Love)

Illustrator Ian Beveridge sketches a house composition for an insurance company. He said the most rewarding part of his job is being paid to do what he loves.

Illustrator gets paid for doing something he loves

By MARCIA LOVE

It's a job that constantly sends him back to the drawing board, but Ian Beveridge is happy to have a career doing what he loves.

From bottle labels to billboards, illustrators play a major role in the advertising industry.

Beveridge, a graduate of Sheridan College, has been an illustrator and graphic designer for about 30 years.

The Waterloo resident operates his company, Ian Beveridge Illustration and Design, out of his home studio.

He has done artwork for insurance companies, construction companies, book authors and the City of Waterloo.

His jobs have included illustrations for maps, books, posters, websites, product labels and advertisements for magazines and billboards.

"I basically do illustrations for anyone who needs art, not just clip-art that they can get off the Internet," Beveridge said.

The process of illustrating consists mainly of consultations with the client and comprehensive compositions.

"I meet with a client and discuss what exactly they want," Beveridge said. "Then I draw out rough composites and show them to the client for input. I may have

to repeat this process a few more times, or I might be able to just jump right to a final composite. I always hope the finished product is better than what the client expected."

Illustrators can work in a variety of mediums, such as acrylic paint, pencil, pen and ink, watercolour or chalk pastel.

In regards to the amount of business illustrators receive, Beveridge said the graphic design element is in greater demand than the actual illustration aspect.

A successful illustrator may make an average salary of \$46,670 a year.

"There are good times and there are slow times," he said. "There are a lot of illustrators out there and they all have their own style. People tend to go in waves to the one they like."

Beveridge said the challenges of his job include time constraints and deadlines.

"The isolation of working on my own also has its effects," he said.

"It's harder to work without the creative atmosphere of a team setting."

However, Beveridge said he enjoys seeing his work being published.

"I'm being paid to draw and paint," he said. "That's the most rewarding part."

Students to help the hard of hearing

By LEANNE MOUNTFORD

When you combine anatomy, psychology and electronics, what do you get?

A very unique program called hearing instrument specialist (HIS).

Ted Venema, co-ordinator of the HIS program at Conestoga College, started a two-year part-time HIS program through continuing education in 2005. In September 2007, he introduced a full-time HIS program to the college.

The part-time program was meant for students who already had a college diploma or university degree. However, the full-time program caters to students right out of high school who have their Grade 12 diploma.

A part-time program still exists at the college but the part-time students sit in the same classes as the full-time students.

Venema said it's very unique. "We're fused. There are not many college programs that are fused," he said.

Lindsay Satchell, a student in the full-time HIS program, decided to switch from the respiratory therapy

program she was in the previous year to the HIS program.

Satchell said some of her family members are hard of hearing.

She said it is a field that is growing, and it can take you in a lot of different directions. You can repair, you can go into sales, you can go into customer service.

Venema said every hearing instrument specialist can get a job because there is such a high demand due to demographics.

"We live in an aging population and elderly get hearing loss," he said.

Satchell said, "I really like dealing with the elderly, so it's right up my alley."

According to Venema, the HIS program consists of four semesters. The first semester is mostly theory, the second and third semesters are lab-intensive and the fourth is a pure clinic practicum.

The program is user-friendly which creates a close group of students.

There are 36 students in the program. 10 part-time and 26 full-time.

Satchell said the students get to perform hearing tests on each other, which is incredibly cool.

"You go into a sound-treated room and you're presented tones which judges your hearing level," she said.

Satchell said she loves anatomy, but the ear didn't work the way she thought it would.

"It's really complicated, more than you would ever think, it's like, wow, what's next?"

Venema said what's really neat is that hearing aids today are all digital. They are programmed on a computer with software and a lot of it is done with wireless Bluetooth technology.

He said they are looking to expand the lab to double its current size, which would allow more students into the program.

He added there are really only three programs in English-speaking Canada that train for the HIS profession, so the demand to get into the program is pretty high.

Venema said Kitchener is the perfect location for a HIS program because it is a mecca of hearing aid companies.

Satchell said, "A lot of us are so keen on what we're doing, we've gone out and done some volunteering and are already scouting the job market."



(Photo by Leanne Mountford)

Ted Venema holds a model ear while standing beside an audiometer and sound booth.

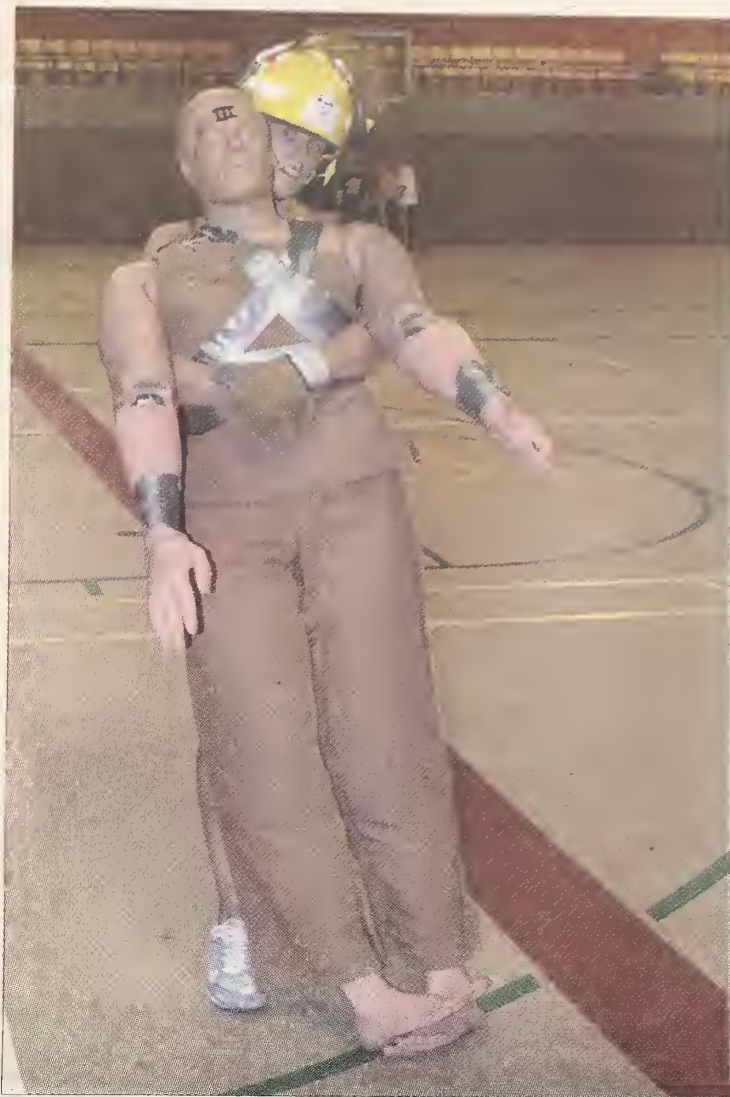
FIREFIGHTER STUDENTS IN ACTION



First-year pre-service firefighter students did their national Candidate Physical Ability Test in the gym of the rec centre at the Doon campus on Jan. 22.

The CPAT was developed to test firefighter candidates on their ability to complete the critical and essential tasks of firefighting.

It is a pass or fail test that must be completed in 10 minutes and 20 seconds, with each event completed correctly. Participants wear a 50-pound vest to simulate the weight of firefighting equipment.



Clockwise from left:
 Billy Bilopavlovic works at the ceiling breach station.
 Bengt Nyman shows his strength at the ladder lift station.
 Eline Kamphuis carries Randy around a barrel and back.
 Pat Keller must strike a target 15 times at the forcible entry station.
 Aaron Dumas prepares to do 100 pushups as punishment for lifting a ladder without his helmet on.

Photos by Leanne Mountford

College of Sports Media ready to 'Play Ball!'

By CHRISTOPHER MILLS

The greatest moments in the history of professional sports are often not immortalized by the players and coaches involved, but by the broadcasters calling the event from high above the arena or stadium.

Calls like those made by Russ Hodges (the Shot Heard Round the World), Foster Hewitt (Henderson's goal in the 1972 Summit Series) and the immortal Tom Cheek (Joe Carter's World Series-ending home run in 1993) have become synonymous with the plays themselves.

Broadcasting is almost as essential to sports as the players themselves, which is why David Lanys wanted to bring to life his vision of a college devoted to sports broadcasting.

The College of Sports Media opened in Toronto in December.

"I was in the Maple Leafs dressing room interviewing Gary Roberts during the playoffs one year, and one of the reporters was asking ridiculous questions," said Lanys, the president and owner of the new college. "I asked myself, where did this person go to school? Why are they asking such silly questions?"

Lanys began to look into different colleges and what they offered and realized there were really no practical programs that involved every-day work.

"Nothing that involved every single day having something critiqued and doing live shows," the former Score reporter said. "I took out interns from the Score and realized that a lot of their fundamental skill sets were quite weak and they were about to enter the workforce."

Lanys initially wanted to create a generic broadcasting school, but he soon realized that all of his contacts and networks were on the sports side of things and decided to go that route.

The college's enrolment is at approximately 20 students to start in February, with a maximum of 40 expected to be reached by September 2008.

Tuition at the private college is \$17,000 per year, plus an additional \$1,000 in supplementary expenses, bringing the total for the two-

year program to \$35,000.

"We are more expensive (than most schools) and we understand that, but the people who really want to do sports broadcasting will find it very unique," Lanys said. "We justify that dollar figure based on the teachers and the curriculum that students are getting, the studio they're in, the equipment, advisory board, that kind of stuff. We know it's not cheap but it is unique."

Lanys said the facility is the primary factor that sets his college apart from others.

"When you're being taught by someone you're going to see on a Saturday night, like Elliott Friedman, what they say is going to have a lot more meaning."

*David Lanys,
owner and president,
College of Sports Media*

"It doesn't feel like a school," he said. "There's 11,000 square feet; TV studios; edit suites; two studios, radio and television; and it feels like a professional office, not a school when you walk in."

The curriculum at the school is 70 per cent practical and 30 per cent theoretical. Students learn everything from newscasts, sportscasts and anchoring to scrums, PR and roundtable discussions.

"Ultimately, our students will be operating a radio newsroom, doing radio shows, operating a TV studio and performing a radio show every night," Lanys said. "Most colleges do a show a week, we do a show a day. There's a big difference."

It also helps that each instructor is currently working within the sports broadcasting industry, most with major networks.

"The network created for students upon graduation is unparalleled," Lanys said. "TSN, the Score, Sportsnet, XM Satellite Radio, Fight Channel – all throughout the industry, with major players in the country, the day they graduate."

Jim Van Horne, a broadcaster of more than 30 years – and an 18-year TSN veteran – is one of the instructors at the school.

"I'll be teaching everything that has to do with on-air presentation in television," Van Horne said. "Basically if it involves writing and performing, it's part of my job description."

Van Horne said the fact that he and other instructors haven't left the industry to become teachers, but are still very much involved, is a great benefit to the students.

"When a student comes in and sees an instructor still really involved in the broadcast industry, he can understand what I'm talking about in practical terms," Van Horne said. "I can say 'why don't you watch the show tonight and pick up exactly what I'm referring to.' The practical element is still ongoing."

"When you're being taught by someone you're going to go see on Saturday night (on Hockey Night in Canada), like Elliott Friedman, what they say is going to have a lot more meaning, because they're more real to you," Lanys added.

The third advantage Lanys believes his college holds is the internships students will be able to attain at major networks.

"Our goal is to graduate junior level broadcasters, not entry level," he said. "At all levels. We don't just teach on-air, we teach behind it as well. Writing, lighting, camera operations, etc."

Van Horne echoed the sentiment, saying the way the program is run will leave students better prepared to step right into an industry job.

"The fact that we are going to be running the college like a true radio and TV station will set them up for a career in broadcasting. That's the edge," he said. "When the students come to school they'll be actually coming to work and working towards that first paying job."

Lanys said the final thing is the access to equipment that his students will have.

"This is industry standard equipment" he said. "Our radio software is what they use at The Fan (590) and our TV equipment is what



(Photos courtesy of College of Sports Media)

Top: An autographed Toronto Maple Leafs Jersey hangs in the main foyer of the newly opened College of Sports Media. The college is located on George Street in downtown Toronto.

Below: College owner and president David Lanys, left, and The Fan 590 program director Nelson Millman pose for a photo during the college's opening/media day in December.



you'll find at major networks across the country."

Van Horne said the hardest part of being a broadcaster, just as it was when he began more than 30 years ago, is getting one's foot in the door and getting that first job. He believes this school will better prepare students for that leap.

"Once that happens, you can plot your future in terms of how successful you want to be, he said. "I firmly believe the industry, not only Canada, but in the U.S., will always

have room for talented people."

Van Horne said it's time to up the ante in this country, as far as the quality of broadcasters in the industry.

"I think Canada needs better broadcasters," he said. "It is incumbent on not just our school but every school to turn out the best broadcasters they can, and that is dependent on students gaining practical experience. That's our goal here; there's no better teacher than experience."

Winterfest beats February blues

By HOLLY FEATHERSTONE

Does your ideal Sunday afternoon comprise hot chocolate, a few hapless rounds on an ice rink and some invaluable insight on your career intentions? Snuff out those wintry blues and ignite some genial dialogue with one of the college's innumerable graduates Feb. 3.

Conestoga's Alumni Association hopes to enliven the proverbial dead of winter by establishing communion between students, staff and, of course, the alumnus, at this year's Winterfest.

"The (festival) has been running for several years and provides an opportunity for students, college staff and alumni to re-connect through a winter event," said Mary Wright, manager of alumni services.

The frosty fiesta, to be held at the recreation centre, will consist of a free one-hour skate from 1-2 p.m.

followed by arts, crafts and games for children from 2-3:30 p.m. Provisions of hot chocolate and cookies will accompany.

Wright said the principle goal of the afternoon is to rouse social enjoyment among attendants, with the inclusion of full-time students.

Winterfest, which in previous years omitted students, is hoping to broaden the college-alumni interface by precipitating mutuality between full-time students and Conestoga graduates.

"The event is free and (will) allow for some social networking for participants and their families," said Wright.

The Alumni Association of Conestoga boasts of 40,000 members and adheres to its mandate of honing in on college success by facilitating relations between the college community and graduate members. The alumni provide

direction and testimonial inspiration to students regarding the fulfillment of educational and occupational goals, while the association maintains graduate linkages with the college through regular contact as well as reunion and fundraising event support.

Wright said this year's Winterfest encourages students to volunteer and participate, thereby impelling a number of initiatives, including an alumni student chapter and "grad-visor" program, which the association seeks to establish.

The prospects of a gradvivor program are tentative at this point, but Wright said both the alumni and student network could benefit by using alumnus as a career, guest speaker and project advisory resource.

For more information, contact Mary Wright, manager of alumni services, at mwright@conestoga.on.ca.

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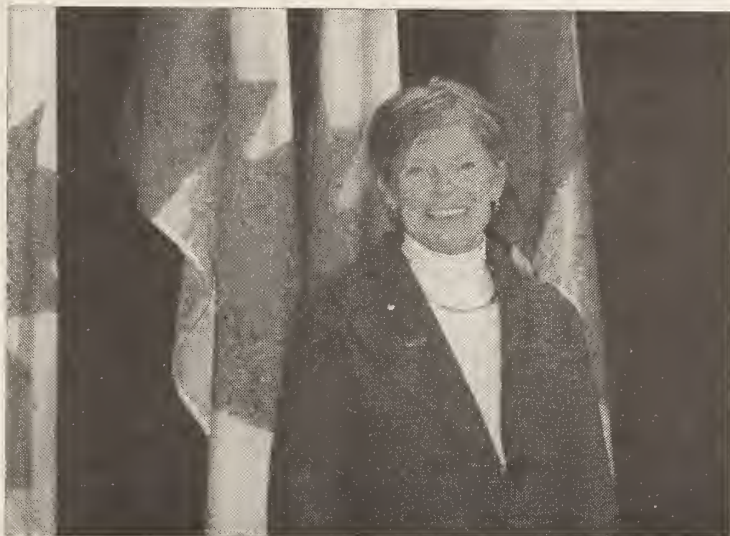
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Dion spearheads Kitchener caucus

The federal Liberal party held their three-day annual caucus meeting at Kitchener's Holiday Inn Jan. 20. Party leader Stéphane Dion focused on his belief that Canada should end all combat missions in Afghanistan by February 2008, but maintain involvement with the training of Afghan military and police. Kitchener Centre MP Karen Redman, right, was among the event's hosts. Redman said the government should also do more to halt the sliding economy.

(Photo by Tim Gedcke)



(Photo by Wei-Lon Lee)

Trades fair offers a second chance

By VANESSA BUTLER

Did you ever think you could learn about hairdressing, cooking and horticulture at the same time?

On Jan. 22, Second Chance Employment Counselling, Lutherwood and Conestoga College held a Service Industry Trades Fair that gave students the opportunity to do just that.

This event featured employers, apprentices, instructors and ministry representatives from various service industry trades including hairdressing, cooking, horticulture and early childhood education. Some of the employers who participated included Marvel Beauty School, The Fat Duck, Telego, Meadowvale and the YMCA.

The event provided individuals interested in apprenticeship with the opportunity to acquire direct information from professionals in the field.

Those interested in the trades industry received information about apprenticeships and new employment opportunities.

The fair took place at the 2nd Chance Youth Resource Centre located in Stone Road Mall.

The fair was geared toward those people who wanted to speak with service industry leaders and chat

about specific trades.

Participants could also speak directly with employers, apprentices, instructors and ministry representatives offering information on all areas of the service industry trades.

Employment Ontario wants to help job seekers get the training, education, skills and experience needed to achieve their goals. The ministry wants to connect people looking for work with employers looking for workers.

Anyone can access Employment Ontario services by one of three ways: telephone, online and in person at offices located throughout the province.

Employment Ontario, which is an employment and training network, will help you build your career and help you keep learning throughout your working life. It is a great source of information about jobs, job search skills, training, education and other services for employees and employers. Visit Employment Ontario online to learn more.

For further information about the Service Industry Trades Fair contact Nicola Edwards or Deirdre Smyth at Second Chance Employment Counselling at 519-823-2440 or nedwards@2ndchance.on.ca.

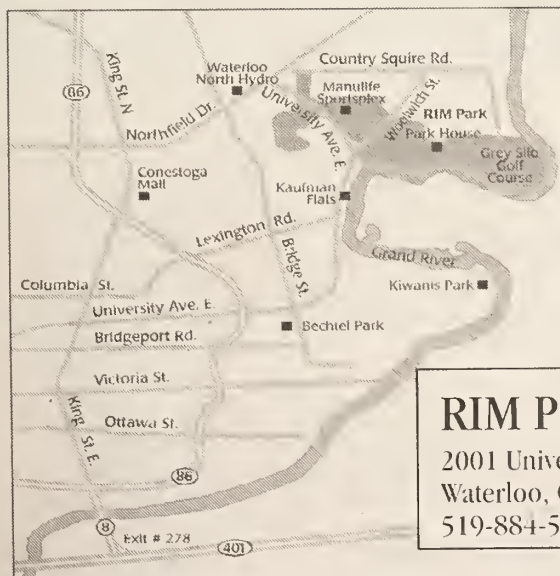
Networking Opportunities at Job Fair

What is Job Fair?

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- To investigate and research career options and potential positions from **diverse sectors**
- To offer your résumé to numerous employers
- To present your skills and qualifications in person

For more information, contact Co-op and Career Services, SCSB Room 220 (Doon Campus), call 519-748-5220, ext. 3340 or email jdavies@conestogac.on.ca



RIM Park

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519-884-5363

Preparation

- Visit www.partners4employment.ca for a list of participating organizations
- Pick up an **Employer Guidebook** at Career Services in advance of Job Fair (available at RIM Park on the day of the Fair as well)
- **Research** employers attending the Fair and target those of interest to you
- **Update your résumé** and take copies to the Fair
- Prepare **questions** to ask employers

Presentation

- Dress and conduct yourself **professionally**
- Exude **enthusiasm** and **self-confidence**
- Be focused and ask relevant **questions**

Transportation to Job Fair

- **FREE transportation** is available
- Buses will pick up and drop off from Doon Campus **Door #3**
- Additional bus service from UW, WLU and U of Guelph is available from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Please see the Fair website for details: www.partners4employment.ca
- **Buses leave promptly at these times**
- Students requiring **accessible transportation** should contact Pam Martin at 519-888-4567, ext. 36055 or email pmartin@uwaterloo.ca before January 1st



To Job Fair	From Job Fair
9:30	12:00
12:30	3:00

Do your part for the environment

By JENNIFER MARKO

Just because you are a student does not mean you can't do your part to help the environment. There are plenty of small ways you can help.

The big fuss over environmental protection became more prominent after American vice-president Al Gore released his award-winning documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, in 2006. The documentary outlined the effects of global warming including melting polar ice caps and increased natural disasters.

However, if you think that you have to buy a hybrid car or install solar panels on your roof to do your part, you are mistaken.

First-year marketing student Rikki Gibson said he does his part.

"I turn off lights, but usually never turn them on when I'm in the room," he said. "I also make sure all the lightbulbs are LED."

LED (light-emitting diode) are the energy saving lights that you can now buy for your lamps, Christmas trees and Christmas lights.

Gibson said he also always turns off the faucet when he brushes his teeth. He said he does most of the things we are told to do to help.

"I also created a Facebook group called FLICK OFF Ontario just to get some awareness out there."

He said he feels it is very important that we help the environment, since we do have to live in it for the rest of our lives.

"Also, I'm not really a fan of all the natural disasters that have been occurring lately ... I'm sure neither are most people," Gibson said.

He said he does not believe we have 10 years to reverse global warming, like Gore says.

"I think it's just his way of telling us that we need to act now. I think that we do need to act fast, but I also believe we have more than 10 years."

He said he has always been concerned about the environment because his dad has always been concerned about it.

"He always taught us to turn off lights and to not waste water. I also have always took short showers so that it didn't waste water."

Second-year early childhood education student Kayla Floto said she, too, does her part for the environment.

"I save paper and hydro," she said. "I conserve energy and recycle."

Floto said she feels it is important to take care of the environment because it is our home.

"The way I look at it is, without the environment, where would we be today?"

Floto said she was shocked when Gore told the public that we have 10 years to reverse the effects of global warming.

"I thought it was a joke and then I realized that it wasn't and we need to really do something about this or we are all going to be sorry about it so that is when I started to do my part."

Floto said before Gore's documentary she did not think about it because there was no big spotlight on the topic but then it started to be something everyone was talking about.

"I may be only one person, but sometimes it's one person that can start a ripple effect and that is what happened," said Floto. "My friends started to see that I was doing something to help out the environment and then they started, too."



(Photo by Jennifer Marko)

First-year practical nursing student Jess Broadfoot does her part and recycles every week at the Conestoga residence.



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10 WAYS YOU CAN HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

- Instead of throwing your class notes in the garbage, toss them into a recycling bin
- Shorten your showers – it may even help you make peace with your annoyed roommate
- Turn down the heat and put on a sweater
- Switch to LED (light emitting diode) lights – they're just as bright
- When the sun is shining, open your blinds and turn off your lights
- Just because you have a car it doesn't mean you have to drive it – try taking the bus
- Stop using disposable grocery bags or if you do, use them over and over as garbage bags
- Don't toss out your textbooks – you may have a friend who needs them
- Bring your own coffee cup to Tim Hortons
- Spread the word – telling others to get involved means more people to help our planet



(Photo by Holly Featherstone)

It's monkey time!

Second-year graphic design student Jovana Sankovic tries on animal-inspired winter beanies at the Reflector Wear's booth that was set up at the college on Jan. 21.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: *Multiculturalism*

Have you recently moved from your home country to Canada? Is English your second language? Are you on an international student visa, of landed immigrant status, or did your family originate from a country other than Canada? Have you recently emigrated from a war-torn country? Are you dealing with issues such as culture shock, unfamiliarity with college or community resources, racism, or a lack of cultural familiarity? Will you be experiencing a Canadian winter for the first time?

Our college community is becoming enriched more and more with students from various cultural backgrounds. This creates a wonderful opportunity for growth, learning, and diversity. However, it can also pose transition issues for those who are new to the country and the college. If you feel you need support dealing with these transitions, help is available. You can talk to your teachers, classmates, friends, or counsellors in Counselling Services.

Counsellors in Counselling Services can meet with students individually to help students with cultural adjustment issues. In addition, ELS students receive culture shock workshops as a part of their curriculum. Students can also make an appointment to counsellors individually about cultural adjustment difficulties. International Students can also look forward to our annual fall event, Survivor Conestoga, which makes International students aware of cultural adjustment issues, health issues and safety issues.

Peer Conversation Partners are available for any International Students through the Learning Commons. Students meet with a peer for the purpose of practicing conversational English. To learn more about resources at the college and in the community, visit Counselling Services in 1A103. We are located in the lower level of the new Student Life Centre Atrium.

A Message from Counselling Services

Study in the land down under

Helen McCart from K.O.M Consultants was at Conestoga on Jan. 16 to provide information for students who would like to go to university in Australia after college. She will be back Feb. 7 and March 5. For more information, visit www.komconsultants.com



(Photo by John Linley)

Get ready for Job Fair 2008

By JOHN LINLEY

Are you looking to establish a career, gain part-time employment or just brush up on your interviewing skills? Then you should make plans to attend the 15th annual Job Fair.

It will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 6 at RIM Park in Waterloo from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This is one of the largest job fairs in Canada with over 250 employers, including Research in Motion, Sun Life Financial and Dell Computers.

Miriam Primeau, a recruiting administrator at Edward Jones, said her company goes to the job fair because it is a big part of their recruiting process.

"There are a lot of graduates coming up in our field, and this helps us meet them one-on-one," she said.

Every employer signs up to be there with the intention to hire people, and a job fair provides them with a better way to do that than the standard hiring process.

It allows them to show potential employees hands-on what their company is all about, rather than just having them read about it in an ad.

Not only do these personal meetings benefit the company, they can make it easier for students to be noticed as well.

Jen Davies, a student adviser at the college, said it is a great opportunity for the employer to see who you are as a person, which will help you stand out from the competition.

"A lot of companies will be looking for your personality," she said. "They can see that at a job fair, not in a resume."

Job fairs are also great for researching companies before you begin the application process so you can find a place that will be a good fit for you.

Since there are too many employers to speak to in one day, preparation is key. Make sure you research ahead of time which companies you are interested in, and have some questions ready to ask them.

Davies suggests bringing 25-30 copies of your resume to hand out, as well as dressing to make a good impression.

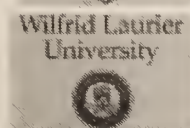
Although you may not get to talk to as many employers as long as you would like to, it is important to get your name and face out there, so the resumes are important.

Even if you aren't actively seeking employment, the opportunity to talk to a lot of companies that are hiring can help you overcome any possible fears of interviewing and hone your skills.

To help you get ready for the job fair, the co-op and career services office will be holding a preparation session on Jan. 29 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Life Office, and anyone interested should sign up at the information desk.

Entry to the job fair is free, provided you bring your Conestoga student card with you, otherwise it will cost \$10.

For more information, go to www.partners4employment.ca.



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Countdown to Super Bowl XLII

Defence wins games which gives the Giants a chance

New England Patriots seek perfection on Super Bowl Sunday

National Football League fans are in for a treat on Feb. 3 as both teams in the Super Bowl could easily win, even with Jessica Simpson cheering in the stands.

Not only do the New England Patriots and the New York Giants have red and blue as their team colours, but they are also more evenly matched than most people think.

With an overall record of 18-0 as of Jan. 20, New England is the favourite to win. Their team has dominated on offence this season with 2007 MVP quarterback Tom Brady at the reins.

But Brady does have helpers; his five receivers, including star Randy Moss, can dominate a team's defence with their speed and agility.

New England also has solid running backs but passing will be their main focus, especially with the Super Bowl on the line.

Experience is also an advantage New England has. Their defence consists of skilled veterans, some who are eager to win their first Super Bowl title and some who have already hoisted the championship trophy. They have players who can intercept passes, force fumbles and plainly stop teams from scoring a touchdown.

But don't count out the underdogs just yet. The New York Giants may have barely sneaked into the playoffs (they had a mediocre 10-6 record in the regular season and barely defeated Green Bay by a field goal to make it to the Super Bowl) but they have proven they are championship material.

The biggest surprise from this team is their defence, led by defensive end Michael Strahan. In their first two playoff games, New York's defence was able to stop the opposing team in their tracks by putting pressure on the quarterback and creating turnovers.

But in order to win games, a team must put points on the scoreboard. New York has managed to do just that with athletic wide receiver Plaxico Burress and powerful running back Brandon Jacobs.

The quarterback, Eli Manning, may be the face of the franchise, but he has been known to let his team down in big games (such as the four interceptions he threw on Nov. 25 against Minnesota).

In order to help New York win, Manning has to be playing his best instead of making mistakes.

When it comes down to special teams, both sides are evenly matched. Neither team is amazing when it comes to kick returns or punt returns and the kickers are identical to one another when it comes to talent.

However, there's more to the championship game than just statistics.

On Dec. 29, New England and New York played their last games of the season, against each other. The highlight of the game was the fact that New York had the lead and



Joshua Khan

Opinion

New England on their knees going into the fourth quarter. But shockingly, New England prevailed and managed to keep their perfect season alive with a 38-35 win. But that's not it as far as the rivalry goes.

In almost every sports league, the Boston-New York rivalry can be seen. In the National Hockey League, the Boston Bruins and New York Rangers have made trades with each other which always come back to haunt them when they play against each other. In the National Basketball Association, the Boston Celtics and New York Knicks have battled each other since the '50s.

The most significant rivalry though is the one between the New York Yankees and the Boston Red Sox in Major League Baseball; both teams, players and fans alike, hate each other.

The rivalry probably won't have an effect on the Super Bowl, but it sure makes the game more interesting.

This should be one of the best Super Bowls in years. However, there can only be one winner. Better running backs and a powerful defence will be the difference in the championship game. Which is why the New York Giants will stop New England's miracle season.

Although, if the championship game turns out to be more boring than shovelling snow, there's always the half-time show.

Nothing beats singing along to "Free Fallin'" while Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers excite millions of fans.

Final Score: 33-28

Here we are, the granddaddy of them all, the biggest spectacle in professional sports, Super Bowl XLII. It'll emanate from the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona on Feb. 3.

And just to make sure their precious streak is complete, the undefeated New England Patriots face the New York football Giants for the coveted Vince Lombardi trophy.

The game we all wanted to see, Green Bay versus New England, won't be happening because the Packers went and literally threw the game away, but that topic is for another day.

The game that will be played, from my view, very well could turn out to be the most lopsided victory in Super Bowl history.

You have the Giants, who have been playing some great football and getting some of the luckiest breaks I've ever seen, going up against the arrogant, hot-dogging juggernaut that is the Patriots.

Just why is this game going to be so unbalanced you ask? Well, I'll break down the matchups one by one.

Tom Brady, the Patriots quarterback and the Patriots' offence, versus the Giants defence. While the Giants have been playing their hearts out, the Packers proved that speed can kill against them, and with that in mind, the Patriots will have a field day.

The Pats' top three wide receivers, Randy Moss, Donte Stallworth and Wes Welker, all have great legs, and great hands to boot.

If they do what they're capable of, it'll be just another day at the office for the most overrated person in the history of the world. Seriously, listen to and read about how much the announcers and sports writers suck up to Brady. He's portrayed as the second coming of Jesus Christ.

If Brady makes a bad throw, it's because the receiver goofed, or the wind took the ball, it's never



Alex McNanney

Opinion

Brady's fault. You could put any QB in the NFL in that offence and they would've done what Brady did this year.

The next matchup is Giants QB Eli Manning and his offence, versus the Pats' defence. This is going to be a nightmare for Manning, as he goes up against one of the league's best defences.

And I really hate to say it, but Bill Belichick, smugness, arrogance and hoodies aside, is one of the greatest defensive minds in NFL history. And with all the talent on that front seven, as well as in the secondary, Eli is going to have fits and headaches from getting hit so many times. What Manning got in week 17 is going to be nothing compared to what he faces Feb. 3.

And the last matchup is between the players who are the second-most underrated in the league, behind only the offensive linemen, and that's the kickers.

For the Pats it will be Stephen Gostkowski (yes, the Patriots actually had a kicker this year) against the Giants' Lawrence Tynes.

Gostkowski was 21 of 24 this season, which considering the Pats' air-it-out style offence is pretty impressive.

Tynes, on the other hand, was 23 of 27 during the season and looked pretty shaky in the NFC Championship until his game-winning boot.

If this game does come down to the kickers, I'm putting my money on Gostkowski, simply because when the game is on the line, so far Tynes is one for three.

Besides the obvious matchups though, there are several storylines in this game. The one that will

likely be hyped to the planet beyond Pluto is the Patriots looking to close out a perfect season, which will be nauseating in and of itself.

Another key one will be for the second straight year, a Manning is trying to knock off "mighty, godly," New England.

Last season it was Eli's brother Peyton who beat the Patriots in the AFC Championship en route to the Super Bowl.

This year's Manning will have a much tougher time though, because to be honest, he doesn't have the experience and drive his brother had. It had been a long time coming for Peyton, while Eli's riding his hot defence in first Super Bowl trip.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm sure Eli wants to win, but he doesn't have that same urgency Peyton had, because Peyton had been labelled a choker and needed to get that monkey off his back.

I expect it to be a tight contest until midway through the third quarter, when that extra gear of the Patriots' kicks in, and they start to do what they did better than anyone else this year, and that's run up the score.

Then the NFL gets what they want, a perfect season by the perfect Patriots and their perfect QB and their perfect coach. Then we can hear about how perfect the Patriots are until training camps open in June, when the perfect Patriots can prepare to defend their perfection. Ugh, someone pass me a barf bag.

Final Score: 48-20

GAME FACTS

- New England is 10-0 at home this season.
- The Giants have won 10 straight games on the road.
- The New England Patriots are favoured by 12 points over the New York Giants.

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HOROSCOPE

Week of January 28, 2008



Aries

March 21 - April 19

You are a natural leader but you have tendencies of not finishing things you have started. Don't try to run the show if you're not going to stick around and finish it. Others are counting on you, push your "me first" attitude aside.



Taurus

April 20 - May 20

Expect a big blowout this week with a very unhappy ending. Ward off depression by using your dominate keywords I HAVE. Simply put, now is the time to count your blessings. You can't be successful all the time.



Gemini

May 21 - June 21

Gemini is a high spirited sign and is not dominated by emotions but you will be struck with cabin fever this week. Gemini rules brightly coloured birds and butterflies - check out some local conservatories for a day trip.



Cancer

June 22 - July 22

Cancer is very possessive and once someone is a part of their life they do not want to let them go. You will have to let someone go this week; don't sulk, celebrate their newfound freedom and remember the good times.



Leo

July 23 - August 22

Leos are unknowingly a challenging sign and are often victims of slander. You will be betrayed by someone close to you this week. You have a right to be angry, but try finding out why they betrayed you for some insight.



Virgo

August 23 - September 22

Lately it seems as though you can't organize the chaos. No matter what you do you just can't seem to get on top of things and get ahead. Use you dominate key words I ANALYZE to help sort out the mess and put things in order.



Jennifer Sprach is a third-year journalism student holding fate in the palm of her hand.



Libra

September 23 - October 22

The cold weather will bring kidney problems resulting in back pain. Drink lots of water and cranberry juice to help ward off problems. Also, sleep with a heating pad on your back to relieve pain.



Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

Don't let criticism this week make you turn your emotions inwards and become self destructive. Take the criticism as an opportunity to recognize your flaws and work on making them better. This is a week of change.



Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

You are a heart breaker and are uncomfortable in a serious relationship. Expect problems this week and you're likely causing them. Ask yourself if you should be lovers or if you're better off as friends.



Capricorn

December 22 - January 19

You, Capricorn, are an onion. You are made up of many layers and few people know the real you. Stop testing the loyalty of friends and lovers and let them in. Life is more enjoyable when you're not alone.



Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

You will meet a new friend this week and will save them from a lot of grief. You make others' lives better by being a part of it. Your live and let live attitude rubs off on others.



Pisces

February 19 - March 20

Pisces rules the feet which means if yours are sore it can be solved by buying a new pair of shoes and a pedicure. Spend a little money on yourself this week but on things that you need.



Winter fun!

If you're not athletic enough for skiing or snowboarding, tubing is a great alternative for fun winter activities. Chicopee Tube Park on River Road in Kitchener is open until 10 p.m. most nights and has a chalet with a licensed bar. Go to www.chicopee-tubepark.com

(Photos by Charlotte Prong Parkhill)



Liverpool 8, short and sweet

By AARON O'CONNELL

If the first song of the day you hear is off of the album Liverpool 8, be prepared to have it lingering in your head for the rest of the week.

Yes, Richard Starkey is at it again with his 14th studio album and his first since Choose Love released in 2005.

Richard Starkey? you might ask. Well, you might know him better by the name of Ringo Starr, the

former drummer of The Beatles who has a Christmas and children's album also to his name.

When you think of Ringo on vocals you probably start singing In an Octopus' Garden, a track that was unique when compared to a lot of the other Beatles songs.

Ringo along with plenty of other musicians released his latest album, Liverpool 8, on Jan. 15 and includes songs that are everything you could ask for from the drummer of The Beatles.

A ballad to Liverpool, where The Beatles grew up and became instant stars, starts off the album in the CD titled track, Liverpool 8.

In this Ringo reminisces about the days back when he was in Liverpool and how he misses it so much. He does it in a way so that you can understand and feel like you were in Liverpool with The Beatles.

In the second verse he explains how he, George, Paul and John would travel to Hamburg to play shows, adding that they didn't have much, but they had enough.

When you look at the song titles of the album you start to wonder if the whole thing is dedicated to his love for Liverpool. With songs such as, Thinking About You, For Love, Gone are the Days and Love Is, there is no doubt that Ringo misses the old days chilling in Liverpool with his three best buds.

Sure he's moved on to write and produce over 10 albums, not including numerous live CDs as well, but none have matched up to The White Album or Abbey Road.

With help from musicians Steve Dudas, who first met Ringo when they co-wrote the CD Vertical Man back in 1998, and Mark Hudson, who has been part of writing and producing five of Ringo's albums, Liverpool 8 brings you music with a range from country riffs to songs like Pasodobles which has a Santana ring to it.

With this short but sweet 12-song album Ringo has added a chapter to his long history of successful music.

At age 67, he still can rock your socks off with dazzling drum beats and can make anyone sing along to his easy listening and mesmerizing vocals.

If you ever get a chance to see Ringo live be sure to bring your lighter.



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Three Days Grace rocks Elements

By JENN SPRACH

The lights went dark; coloured lights pierced the darkness and smoke drifted upon the stage, and then, a boom of bass so loud it rattled my ribcage.

The stars of the show appeared one-by-one, illuminated by multi-coloured spotlights and amid a cloud of smoke.

As Three Days Grace began their show at Elements Nightclub in Kitchener on Jan. 21 with one of their hits, the crowd screamed with anticipation. The band played some of their popular songs including Home, Just Like You, Animal I Have Become and Never Too Late.

During the song I Hate Everything About You, the lead singer, Adam Gontier, had the crowd screaming the chorus.

The light show enriched the performance, with all the colours of the rainbow flashing and a disco ball spinning.

Throughout the entire show the crowd was singing the band's songs, word-for-word.

Once the hit song Riot came on the crowd turned into a mosh pit with some fans trying unsuccessfully to body surf.

Gontier was telling the crowd to show their energy and they obeyed by jumping in the air and throwing their hands high and cheering.

Neil Sanderson, on the drums, showed dedication and enthusiasm holding the perfect rhythm throughout the entire concert.

Barry Stock, the lead guitarist, shone on the stage with his strong guitar skills and trick playing performances.

Bass guitar player Barry Walsh is the type of rock star who plays wholeheartedly and appears to get absorbed by the energy of the performance.

Three Days Grace delivered a high-energy, crowd-involved show which lasted for a solid two hours.

"We had a really good crowd tonight," said Walsh. "We feed off the crowd."

The Toronto band likes coming to Kitchener because they have a good fan base in this area, he said.

Stock said he likes doing the smaller shows because they have a lot of energy.

"It was an intimate show, I had fun."

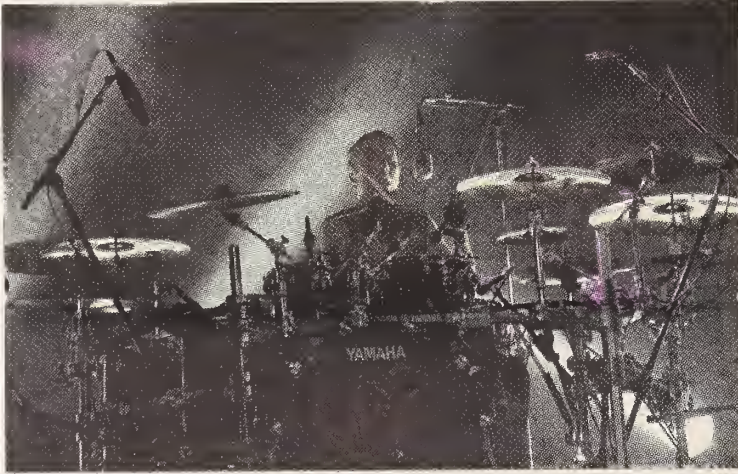
Three Days Grace also performed on Jan. 22 at Elements Nightclub, which holds 1,100 people, with both shows selling out.



Three Days Grace delivered a high-energy rock show which maxed out Elements Nightclub's capacity of 1,100 people on Jan. 21.



Meet Three Days Grace



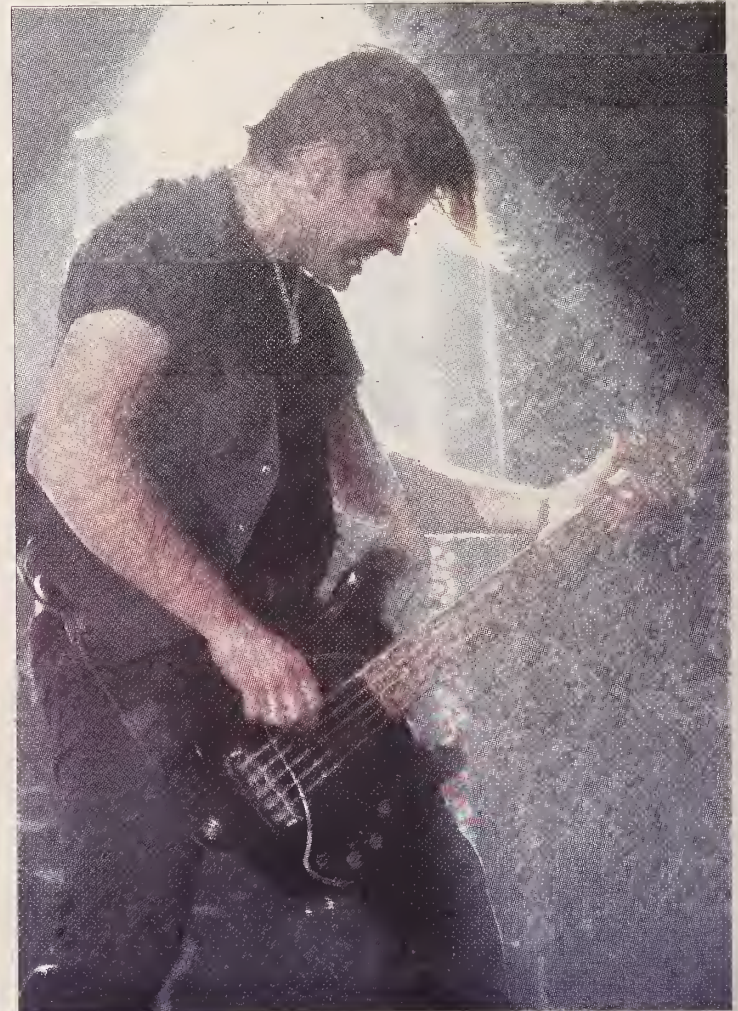
Neil Sanderson, drums.



Adam Gontier, lead vocalist and guitar.



Barry Stock, lead guitarist.



Brad Walsh, vocalist and bass.



Photos by
Jenn Sprach